



PATENT  
PD-Y01-028

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: CHRIS J. CAVANAUGH  
Serial No.: 09/932,018  
Filed: August 18, 2001  
For: UNIVERSAL HOLDING FIXTURE

: Date: March 4, 2003  
: Group Art Unit: 3723  
: Examiner: Lee Wilson

*Freling C*

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

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*MAR 10 2003*

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**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the following Claims to read as indicated.

1. A universal holding fixture for holding an object, comprising:

*C1*  
a plurality of dual axis clamps that are each rotatable, slidable and lockable to two rods  
to form an articulated structure, which rods and clamps are rotatable, slidable and lockable  
relative to each other to position the rods at varying and arbitrary angles relative to each other,  
5 and wherein selected rods are suitably positioned and secured to hold the object.

*C2*  
3. The fixture recited in Claim 2 wherein a fixed rod is secured to the base and the  
articulated structure comprises eight dual axis clamps that are rotatable, slidable and lockable to  
six rods.

5. The fixture recited in Claim 1 wherein the articulated structure comprises eight dual  
axis clamps that are rotatable, slidable and lockable to six rods.

*C3*  
6. The fixture recited in Claim 5 further comprising two additional rods that are  
rotatable, slidable and lockable a selected one of the four rods by way of two additional dual  
axis clamps.

7. The fixture recited in Claim 1 wherein the articulated structure comprises:

a plurality of first dual axis clamps that are each rotatable, slidable and lockable to a  
fixed rod and that are each rotatable, slidable and lockable to a second transverse rod;  
a plurality of second dual axis clamps that are each rotatable, slidable and lockable to a  
5 respective second rod and that are each rotatable, slidable and lockable to a third rod that is  
disposed generally transverse to the respective second rod;